

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 93 13:45:36 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #321
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Mon, 15 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 321

Today's Topics:

 Alinco DJ580-T battery life(a real world example)
 Amateur Radio authors needed
 Amateur TV equip. for sale
 Best 2M HT Antenna?
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 Ham Radio Outlet
 HTX-202 MODS !!!!!!!
 Just for fun . . . someone's screw up
 Newbie question: What is iambic?
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 QSL Help Needed
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 TS-440S/AT tuner bug..
 VHF Car Antenna: Update (2 msgs)
 Volvo warning: EMI
 What about those FAQing number stations anyway?
 WHEN IS BALTIMORE/TIMONIUM HAMFEST?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 15 Mar 93 04:45:14 +1700
From: usc!wupost!newsfeed.rice.edu!lub001.lamar.edu!newsfeed.rice.edu!
cs.utexas.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!rouge!
jab0684@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Alinco DJ580-T battery life(a real world example)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Message-ID: <1993Mar15.083055.28537@usl.edu>
Sender: anon@usl.edu (Anonymous NNTP Posting)
Organization: Univ. of Southwestern La., Lafayette
Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 08:30:55 GMT
Lines: 25

With all of the discussion of ht's I thought I'd relate my experience with my DJ580-T using the standard 7.2v,700mah battery. The starting voltage of my battery was about 8.45(the highest it would charge too). The radio was set to have the VHF vfo on only and for a simplex frequency of 147.90 mhz. I used an ems-8 speaker microphone, and transmitter power was set to Medium(1 watt).

The radio was used at the Lafayette Hamfest(I'm a member of the hosting club), to keep club members in touch and run the hamfest. I did about an average amount of talking, although I didn't measure the exact amount of time. I'd guess my talk time was comparable to what a cop would do working the same hours, thus there was no excess chit chat. With the exception of one brief UHF phone patch(at one watt also), the uhf vfo was powered down for the duration. The rig was operated for about 2-3 hours on friday (for setting up the hamfest, btw no talking was done here but both vfo's powered on) Another note the battery save was on the entire time all 3 days. Saturday the rig ran from 6:30 am to about 4:45 pm. The rig ran from about 8:45 am to 12:00 pm on Sunday(at which time the battery low alarm went off, meaning it was effectively dead. So that comes out to about 15 hours of moderate usage.

How this helps someone considering the rig. Which by the way I have had for about 8 months, and I love it.

73 DE kb5udf

kb5udf@ucs.usl.edu
t

Date: 15 Mar 93 11:19:02 EST
From: psinnntp!arrl.org@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Amateur Radio authors needed
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

- 1) Have you written, for publication, about technical subjects in an organized (from an outline), clear and concise fashion so that most hams can understand?
- 2) Have you designed and built several projects that work

well?

- 3) Are you an electronics engineer, repair or lab technician?
- 4) Do you enjoy teaching others about electronics?

If you answer "Yes" to any of these questions, or if you have other significant talent or experience and you would like to write for ARRL projects, please send me an email note or call me at 203-666-1541 (x277). Tell me about your qualifications and subject area(s) you would like to write about. (If you prefer the phone, it's best to call weekdays from 9-10 AM and 2-3 PM Eastern time. Contributing authors are compensated for their work.)

73, Bob, KU7G

Date: 14 Mar 93 19:02:04 -0500
From: haven.umd.edu!news.umbc.edu!gmuvox2!gmuvox.gmu.edu!5199as@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Amateur TV equip. for sale
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have for sale a couple of gadgets that might be modifiable for use in Amateur TV reception. Is this the right place to post it? Make offers via e-mail.

1. Zenith Subscription TV receiver.

The Zenith receives a UHF broadcast signal, demodulates it and then remodulates it using a channel 3 video-audio RF modulator. I have schematics and documentation for it. It requires an external 24 VDC and 12 VDC power supply. It is designed for VHF/cable/UHF use but the VHF/cable tuner section on its main board is not assembled because the application was UHF only. So if you're really into it, I guess you could take a VHF tuner from something else and connect it. I would not know how to do it though. The descrambling board has an accessible memory chip socket which contains an erased 18-pin RAM chip with an 11-digit address number label on it.

2. Mitsumi UHF varactor tuner.

The Mitsumi tuner is a solid state varactor tuner for TV channels 14 thru 83. It can be modified for use in satellite IF strips, 420 MHz amateur TV applications and more. I have data sheets on it but they do not include instructions for these modifications. It

features a Ch. 3 test output so it could be used in a UHF to VHF
(Ch.3) converter. It's part number is UES-A56F sold under Radio
Shack cat. # 277-220.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:24:53 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Best 2M HT Antenna?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar14.194211.27515@mercury.cair.du.edu> elesatz@diana.cair.du.edu
(Eric LeSatz) writes:

>I'm using a 2M HT with the standard rubber duck antenna (+-4") and while I
>don't have many problems hitting repeaters, I was looking for an
>antenna that would help clean up my signal. Preferably something that
>would work well from trouble spots such as steel buildings or ground
>floors of densely populated areas. Portability is definitely a plus.
>I'm not looking for a base or mobile antenna.

Both Larsen and Comet make "gain" duckies. The Larsen Kulducky seems
OK, but I'm using the Comet dualband ducky. It's a little long, but
very flexible and seems to work much better than a stock Yaesu duck.

Gary

--
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | |

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 02:25:01 GMT
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!hermes.chpc.utexas.edu!news.utdallas.edu!
feenix.metronet.com!marcbg@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Customer Service--HRO and others
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> (previous text deleted)

I was having a discussion with another ham buddy of mine, and we realized
one thing: Unless prices are REAL cheap, most people won't put up with
shoddy customer service, regardless of their income.

If you don't like HRO, shop at AES. In 6 years and thousands of dollars
of deals at AES, they rank #1 in my book. I have returned merchandise

their I simply didn't want (within the return period), and they always ship right away. When I lived in Europe, AES had my order at the APO in 4 days!

Our local ham store in the Dallas area (Texas Towers, not too mention any names), used to have a REAL bad reputation to locals. Fortunately, K5GW cleaned up is act and the place is actually somewhat nice to visit these days. I don't like their non-return policy, but then again, us hams are difficult folk to deal with.

I just got back from a weekend of wheeling + dealing in Midland, Texas. And, speaking of sales tax, what ticks me off is when the Texas vendors have to pay sales tax but COLORADO COMM CENTER (once again, not to mention any names) can sneak out of the state with paying sales tax on a very small percentage of their sales.

So, you see friends, life ain't fair, but one thing is for certain:

WE, AS AMERICANS, CAN VOTE WITH OUR DOLLARS.

and, when we practice this capitalist democracy, it seems that even large companies (i.e., Sears) can get the message. Salespeople should have enough product information to be able to EDUCATE the consumer about a product (what a concept) and not look down on someone who is not informed about a new tech item.

How come when I go to an appliance dealer, usually, the salesman is eager to show me the latest whistles and bells on a washer, VCR, dryer, etc. Why? Because they work on COMMISSION and/or they are well TRAINED.

What a concept for the ham world

Good night, Chet.

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--
|Marc Grant           | Internet: marcbg@feenix.metronet.com |
|POB 850472          | Amateur Radio Station N5MEI         |
|Richardson, TX 75085| Voice/Fax: 214-231-3998             |
- . . . . - - . . . . - . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
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Date: 15 Mar 93 14:57:37 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: FT-470 Mods
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Thanks to Brian, Mike, John, and all the others who responded to me request for Ft-470 mods. These thing'll keep me busy for a while!!

Jerry K1MER

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:45:34 GMT
From: noc.near.net!lynx!lkay@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I found the answer to the HRO situation quite a while ago.
Sure, I run up to HRO Salem for stuff I need yesterday, but when
I'm pondering a large ticket item, I call: AES!

I have had nothing but great telephone service from AES, and
similar experiences from their booths at hamfests. Now, is this
an erroneous data point, or have others had similar experience?
Of course, I can't speak to their in-store service. Can any
midwesterners enlighten me?

And: AES's catalogs have prices!!! :-)

73, Len

PS: HRO Salem's staff is in general pretty good. Talk to Paul, NW1U.

Dr. Leonard Kay, KB2R | "But we are not dealing with the
Electrical and Computer Engineering | normal world. We are chasing DX."
Northeastern University, Boston | -- W9KNI, 'The Complete DXer'
NU ARC: W1KBN 145.31(-) |
Packet: KB2R@K1EA | #include <disclaimer.h>

Date: 15 Mar 93 09:47:53 EST
From: titan.ksc.nasa.gov!k4dii.ksc.nasa.gov!user@ames.arpa
Subject: HTX-202 MODS !!!!!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar7.231729.12415@jupiter.sun.csd.unb.ca>,
unbham@jupiter.sun.csd.unb.ca (UNBARC) wrote:

> I know this question has been asked many times and will probably be repeated
many times in the future. My friend has an HTX-202 Radio Shack HT and would
like to know if there are any mods for this unit. If so, could you perhaps
> tell me what mods are available and/or how the procedure is done.

Don-

Does this qualify as a "MOD"?

At the Orlando Hamfest this weekend, I talked to several battery companies.
Only one had refill kits for the HTX-202:

HTX-202 Insert \$15
(7.2 volts 600 mAH)

E. H. Yost & Company
7344 Tetiva Road
Sauk City, Wisconsin 53583
Telephone (608)643-3194
FAX (608)643-4439

I hope this helps.

73, Fred, K4DII

Date: 15 Mar 93 18:22:57 GMT
From: psinntp!arrl.org@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Just for fun . . . someone's screw up
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, brian@ucsd.edu (Brian Kantor) writes:

>
>Hams, of course, tend to prop a brick on the mic button and recite their
>entire life story.

Not the *entire* life story, just the part since birth.

Jon Bloom, KE3Z | jbbloom@arrl.org
American Radio Relay League | Justice is being allowed to do whatever
225 Main St. | I like. Injustice is whatever prevents
Newington, CT 06111 | my doing so. -- Samuel Johnson

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:27:31 GMT
From: noc.near.net!lynx!lkay@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Newbie question: What is iambic?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C3syLK.9KC@inews.Intel.COM>,
dbraun@cad636.intel.com (Doug Braun) writes:

>
> What is an "iambic" keyer for CW? What relation does it
> have, if any, to classical poetry?
>

When you close the dot and dash paddles simultaneously on an
iambic keyer, it produces a continuous string of
di-dah-di-dah-di-dah-dah..... which kinda sounds
like iambic meter, hence the name.

Len

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-----  
Dr. Leonard Kay, KB2R          | "But we are not dealing with the  
Electrical and Computer Engineering | normal world. We are chasing DX."  
Northeastern University, Boston | -- W9KNI, 'The Complete DXer'  
NU ARC: W1KBN 145.31(-)        |  
Packet: KB2R@K1EA             | #include <disclaimer.h>  
-----
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Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 16:54:22 GMT
From: price@cod.nosc.mil
Subject: QRP Groups
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar15.001846.22704@odin.corp.sgi.com> adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com
(Charles Adams) writes:

>
>NAME: Jim Price
>CALL: K6ZH
>email address: price@nosc.mil
>RIG(s): Ten-Tec Argonaut (early one) with TH-3, dipoles
>QRP Favorites: DXing, contests
>COMMENTS: Getting close to 200 countries worked. Have several
contest awards for QRP operation--especially Sweepstakes. Also
run TS-430S for "QRO" operation.

Date: 15 Mar 1993 12:07:25 GMT
From: mcsun!news.funet.fi!butler.cc.tut.fi!pk75978@uunet.uu.net
Subject: QSL Help Needed
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

--

oh3mep@cc.tut.fi
pk75978@ee.tut.fi
(oh3mep@oh3rce)

Date: 15 Mar 93 16:53:39 GMT
From: olivea!inews.Intel.COM!sousa.intel.com!jreece@uunet.uu.net
Subject: TH-26AT vs. HTX-202 recommendations
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar14.170940.14670@bcars6a8.bnr.ca> sami@bcarh13d.bnr.ca (Sami Boulos) writes:

>I'm considering either the TH-26AT or HTX-202 HTs. I'd appreciate
>the pros/cons of each from owners of these. Thanks.

Unlike a lot of HTs the HTX-202 doesn't receive outside the 2m ham band. This wasn't a big deal for me, as I principally got it as the cheapest, non-kit packet transceiver that was in stock when my license arrived. Then again most TNCs don't have interfacing instructions for it, and the interfacing "schematic" in the Tandy manual is ludicrously inadequate. Some detective work revealed that the TNC interfacing is the same as the ICOM-2AT.

--
John Reece "This lifeboat is full"
KD6RXL
Not an Intel spokesman

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 15:15:58 GMT
From: news.acns.nwu.edu!casbah.acns.nwu.edu!rdewan@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: TS-440S/AT tuner bug..
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <4841.120.uupcb@pcs.sj.ca.us> bill.nadzam@pcs.sj.ca.us (Bill Nadzam) writes:

> Although this is just a wild guess, I would look at the relay that is
>used in the output section of the rigs final amplifier. This selects
>several different caps, one per bandwidth coverage, it could be there.
>Also there are several caps, coil values are selected... etc...

The relay itself has significant inductance at 10m. There have been "H&K" and "Feedback" articles on this.

Rajiv

aa9ch

Address: r-dewan@nwu.edu

Phone: None. Only CW.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:47:38 GMT

From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: VHF Car Antenna: Update

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <14MAR93.13974298.0055@UNBVM1.CSD.UNB.CA> Paul Cormier <Y6HJ@UNB.CA> writes:

>I called up a few places, and the only 2m/70cm glass mount antenna
>that I could find was one by Larsen. It seems to be a good antenna,
>BUT it's 36 inches, and that's too long for me.

>

>Since I rarely use UHF in my car, (there aren't many UHF repeaters
>around here) I will probably go with a VHF antenna.

>

>Now, does anyone have any good/bad experiences on a particular model,
>or any suggestions on a VHF glass mount antenna for a HT at ~ 2 watts.

I've had horrible experiences with all the on glass antennas, from VHF Avanti, to dualband Larsen, to cellular phone Motorola. I've had them fall off with *no* change in SWR or *performance*. IE the coax was doing all the radiating. None of them equaled a quarterwave mounted on the metal top, and all of them had lots of RF in the cabin that drove the dashboard instruments crazy. And that's with the metal tag properly grounded to the body.

I know that a few others report good results with them, but I can't recommend *any* of them. Even a magmount is better in my experience.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 93 16:53:51 GMT

From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!jmaynard@uunet.uu.net

Subject: VHF Car Antenna: Update

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar15.144738.7079@ke4zv.uucp> gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:

>I've had them fall off with *no* change in SWR or *performance*. IE the coax >was doing all the radiating.

I'm using a UHF Antenna Specialists (which became Avanti) on my Explorer's rear driver's side window. When I first mounted it, I didn't use enough RTV on the inside box, and it fell off after a few weeks. The difference was REALLY noticeable: I could barely hear the biggest-smoke repeater in town, and couldn't talk at all. Remounting the box fixed the problem (duh).

(For all you hole-mount bigots out there: I didn't spend \$15,000 on this truck, either, to drill holes in it!)

--

Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

You won't see this on TV: (video of Mount Carmel compound)

"This is David Koresh, of Waco, Texas. He cannot be seen."

Date: 15 Mar 93 19:11:27 GMT

From: sun-barr!male.EBay.Sun.COM!news2me.EBay.Sun.COM!cronkite.Central.Sun.COM!
texsun!exucom.exu.ericsson.se!s12b04!exualan@decwrl.dec.com

Subject: Volvo warning: EMI

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Copied (without permission) from March 11 Daily Swedish Newswire.

--Alan, KE5JL

>VOLVO ISSUES WARNING ABOUT NEW MOBILE TELEPHONES<

Volvo is one of the auto makers that are now warning customers about the new GSM telephone. The radio waves from the phone can trigger air bags to inflate and interfere with the electronics of a car's anti-lock braking system," writes Svenska Dagbladet as its lead story today.

Next fall, Volvo will begin including a warning about the phones in its new owner's manuals. Volvo is currently advertising its customers to mount the phone's antenna on the outside of the car.

"It is a recommendation that should be perceived as an order," says Stieg-Ake Bentsson, spokesman for VGA, which sells Audis and Volkswagens in Sweden.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:25:52 GMT
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!utnut!torn!nott!bnrgate!bcars267!mwandel@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: What about those FAQing number stations anyway?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

My turn to ask the eternal question: What is it with these number stations anyway? The one I heard recently was at about 5.165MHz USB, in the evening hours, with a female voice reciting 5-digit groups in German. The voice was voice samples played back by computer. "Zero" was used instead of "Null" (0) and a word like "Fuelle" was used instead of "Fuenf" (5). Transmissions were bracketed by "Achtung" (Attention) and "Ende" (End). Each 5-digit group was recited twice making it almost foolproof to copy even if the reception was bad. Not a one-time occurrence either; I heard it a year ago too!

So. It's an encrypted transmission, it's meant to be received by low-tech means, it's one-way, it's quite likely to more than one recipient, it's in GERMAN, and it's transmitted in/to North America. What on earth is it?

Markus Wandel
markus@pinetree.org <-- NOT the source of this posting.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 15:43:00 GMT
From: usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!ukma!news1.gsfc.nasa.gov!
nssdca.gsfc.nasa.gov!stocker@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: WHEN IS BALTIMORE/TIMONIUM HAMFEST?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <RBOLT-120393161846@128.183.16.116>, RBOLT@postman.gsfc.nasa.gov (Dick Bolt) writes...

>Isn't Timonium soon this year?? Anyone know the date?

Hamfest scheduled for 27 and 28 March.

Erich

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 19:39:55 GMT
From: apple!mumbo.apple.com!gallant.apple.com!34.46.104.17.in-addr.arpa!
COLLIER@decwrl.dec.com
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <ring.9.731607330@kelvin.jpl.nasa.gov>,

<1993Mar10.190827.5170@news.acns.nwu.edu>, <0B1c1B1w165w@precipice.chi.il.us>
Subject : Re: When is the Dayton Hamvention?

In article <1993Mar10.190827.5170@news.acns.nwu.edu> Jerry Weiss,
jweiss@casbah.acns.nwu.edu writes:

>>If you don't already have hotel reservations, or some other method of
>>lodging, don't bother coming (unless you don't mind wandering the
>>streets). Everything is booked solid.

>>

>

>I would ignore this advice. People are always canceling reservations
>and openings appear all the time, especially in the week before the
>Hamvention starts. Call around and don't be disappointed if you
>don't find anything at first. Its all a matter of timing and luck.
>I often seen postings on packet from people looking for roomates to
>share reservations.

>

>The last two years I have made reservations 10-15 days before the start
>and managed to stay with 5 miles both times.

>

>Jerry WB9MRI

Gee Jerry,

I know I would have a problem traveling over a thousand miles to an event
of this type and then end up at the YMCA, or worse yet, up all night at
Denny's.

You can keep your seat of the pants traveling methods. I'll stay home
until I have a reservation booked and confirmation number in hand.

Have a nice day.

Will

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #321
